IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Currently Amended) A playback device for executing playback of video composed of a plurality of frame images, comprising:

a read unit operable to read a video stream from a recording medium;

a frame memory;

5   a video decoder operable to decode the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and write the frame images on the frame memory;

an output unit operable to generate a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame memory, and output the video signal together with copy control information that defines a permitted number of copying of the video signal;

10   a setup unit operable to accept a user operation indicating whether to allow or prohibit addition of supplemental information to the video signal;

an output control unit operable to cause the output unit to output the video signal with the addition of the supplemental information, respectively when the user operation allows and prohibits the addition; and

15   an assigning unit operable to assign one type of the copy control information to the video signal according to the user operation, and cause the output unit to output together with the video signal, with the addition of the supplemental information, the one type of copy control information defining, a less strict restriction larger number when the user operation allows the addition of the supplemental information, than another copy control information to be assigned

20 ~~to the video signal output without~~ <u>when the user operation prohibits</u> the addition of the

supplemental information.

      7.   (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 6, wherein

      the copy control information indicate one of a Copy Free status, an Only One

Copy status, and an Never Copy status, and

      restrictions imposed by the respective statuses in an increasing order are the Copy

5   Free status, the Only One Copy status, and the Never Copy.

      8.   (Original) The playback device according to Claim 6, wherein

      the recording medium is a portable recording medium,

      the playback device further comprises:

      a built-in recording medium storing a supplemental information stream,

5   the read unit is further operable to read the supplemental information stream from

the built-in recording medium,

      the playback device further comprises:

      a supplemental information decoder operable to decode the supplemental

information stream, and

10   the supplemental information is an image obtained by decoding the supplemental

information stream.

      9.   (Previously Presented) The playback device according to Claim 8, wherein

      the built-in recording medium stores multi-path information binding the

supplemental information stream to a section of the video stream on the portable medium, and

the output control unit causes the video signal to be output with the addition of the

5 supplemental information when a current playback point reaches the section.

10. (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 9, wherein

the multi-path information binds the supplemental information stream to the

plurality of sections of the video stream.

11. (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 6, wherein

the recording medium stores locator information specifying an address on a

network,

the playback device further comprises:

5 a download unit operable to download a supplemental information stream from a

server located at the address specified by the locator information; and

a supplemental information decoder operable to decode the supplemental

information stream downloaded, and

the supplemental information is an image obtained by decoding the supplemental

10 information stream.

12. (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 11, wherein

the download unit is operable to transmit a medium identifier to the server when

accessing the server, and receive copy control information encrypted using the medium identifier

from the server, and

5 the copy control information assigned by the assigning unit is obtained by

decrypting the encrypted copy control information using the medium identifier.

13.   (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 12, wherein

the download unit is operable to transmit a maker identifier or a model number of

the playback device to the server when accessing the server.

14.   (Currently Amended) A <u>non-transitory</u> computer-readable recording medium

comprising a program recorded thereon, the program for causing a computer to execute playback

of video composed of a plurality of frame images, the program comprising code operable to

cause the computer to perform the steps of:

5   reading a video stream from a recording medium;

decoding the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and write the frame images

on a frame memory of the computer;

generating a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame

memory;

10   accepting a user operation <u>indicating whether</u> to allow <u>or prohibit</u> addition of

supplemental information to the video signal;

controlling and outputting the video signal with <u>and without</u> the addition of the

supplemental information<u>, respectively</u> when the user operation allows <u>and prohibits</u> the

addition; [[and]]

15   assigning <u>one type of</u> copy control information to the video signal ~~output with the~~

~~addition of the supplemental information~~ <u>according to the user operation</u>, the copy control

information defining a ~~less strict restriction~~ <u>permitted number of copying of the video signal, the</u>

<u>permitted number being larger than when the user operation allows the application of the</u>

<u>supplemental information,</u> than ~~another copy control information to be assigned to the video~~

20 ~~signal output without~~ <u>when the user operation prohibits the</u> addition of the supplemental

information; <u>and</u>

  <u>outputting the one type of copy control information together with the video signal.</u>

  15. (Currently Amended) A playback method for executing playback of video

composed of a plurality of frame images; comprising the steps of:

  reading a video stream from a recording medium;

  decoding the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and write the frame images

5 on a frame memory of a computer;

  generating a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame

memory;

  <u>accepting a user operating indicating whether to allow or prohibit addition of</u>

<u>supplemental information to the video signal;</u>

10 controlling and outputting the video signal with <u>and without</u> the addition of the

supplemental information<u>, respectively</u> when the user operation allows <u>and prohibits</u> the

addition; [[and]]

  assigning <u>one type of</u> copy control information to the video signal ~~output with the~~

~~addition of the supplemental information~~ <u>according to the user operation,</u> the copy control

15 information defining a ~~less strict restriction~~ <u>permitted number of copying of the video signal, the</u>

<u>permitted number being larger when the user operation allows the addition of the supplemental</u>

<u>information,</u> than ~~another copy control information to be assigned to the video signal output~~

~~without~~ <u>when the user operation prohibits</u> the addition of the supplemental information.